



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,
EDITOR.

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Once, amid the roses bright,
Ruby red, honey sweet—
You and I, in laughing weather,
Sung a lay of love together;
Petals falling on our feet,
When shall summer be so light?
Never more!
Oh, never more!

N. W. McLain A. I. Root and L. C. Root were appointed a committee by the Detroit Convention to investigate the Chapman Honey-Plant. They are now engaged in that work, Mr. McLain having gone East for the purpose of meeting Mr. Root, and together making the investigation. In due time their report will appear in our columns.

The Annual Show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, was held at Norwich last month, and we notice that Messrs. George Neighbour & Son, of London, England, carried off the first and third prizes on hives for all purposes; first prize for Cottager's hive, and the first prize for the best collection of hives and implements for bee-keepers. We congratulate them on the success they so richly deserve.

The Hancock County Fair will be held at Greenfield, Ind., on Aug. 24 to 27, 1886. Those interested should send to the secretary, Charles Downing, Greenfield, Ind., for a copy of the Premium List. The premiums for bees and honey amount to \$32, besides diplomas and a queen offered by George Cole for the best display of honey from one colony.

Toads are sometimes very annoying in the apiary. A correspondent mentions the fact that upon going to the hives one morning during the late drought, he noticed a toad at the entrance of each hive. He says that the toads were apparently asleep, but every time a bee approached, the tongue of the toad would shoot out like lightning and convey the unsuspecting insect into its capacious mouth.

Why is it Mysterious?—From Mr. H. Banks, Reisterstown, Md., we have received the following item taken from the Port Tobacco, Md., *Independent*:

A correspondent from White Plains writes that several persons in that vicinity were poisoned not long since by eating honey taken out of a box in a bee-hive, whereas that taken out of the adjoining hives was absolutely pure and harmless, as is known by its being eaten by two or more that were poisoned by the other. The effect produced was that of an indescribable burning and alternately chilly sensation, with nausea, vomiting and great prostration of vital forces. The persons thus affected were Mrs. George R. Roby and daughter, Mr. John Murray (ex-sheriff), Mrs. J. T. Davis and Mr. Wm. Davis, to whom Dr. P. W. Hawkins administered, to neutralize the venom that was received into the system, whatever that was. The whole affair seems to be involved in mystery.

Mr. Banks asks, "Can you fathom the mystery?" In the human mind there seems to be a great passion for the mysterious! If anything is in the least strange, it is at once set down as a mystery! But we can see nothing of the kind in the above item.

We are well aware that such a good authority as Prof. A. J. Cook claims that there is no such a thing as "poisonous honey"—but we are compelled to dissent from that view. Xenophon, the Greek historian and general, tells us that his soldiers were poisoned by eating the honey of Trebizond, and that it produced the effect of a temporary insanity. In 1704, Tournefort, the great French botanist, found that the honey made from the *Azalea Pontica* produced the same effect as that described by Xenophon. In 1838, Mr. Abbott wrote to the secretary of the Zoological Society that he had himself witnessed the effect of this honey, and confirming all that the Greek general had said. The evidence is too great to admit of doubt; at least it seems so to us.

In the above case the bees might have gathered honey from the "kill-calf" or "mountain laurel;" and while some hives may have contained considerable of this, others may have had little or none. There is no necessity for a "mystery" in the case! The honey in the hives was just what remained of that which the bees had gathered.

Fortunately, that kind of honey is found in but few places, where bees are kept in log-gums and box-hives, and only when there is a scarcity. Like glucose, bees will not touch it if anything else is available. It is never shipped to market, and the cases of poisoning always occur in remote places, backwoods, etc. It is a fact that though some cases of poisoning have been reported, but very few deaths are recorded from its effects.

A Contemporary says "carefully lay up the honey crop." The best place to lay up a honey crop is in the stomach of buyers as quickly as it can be gotten there.—*Farm, Field and Stockman*.

Now is the Time to Join the Union.

—Let every bee-keeper send for a copy of the Annual Report and Member's Blank—fill it up, and become a member. It is to the interest of every one to do so. The dues are only 25 cents a year; and it is intended only to call for one assessment (of \$1.00) each year. Send to this office for the Report and Membership Blank.

Another Lawsuit has been begun. On page 491, Mr. M. Darling remarks that his case has been tried, and the judge withholds his verdict for the present.

Now comes Mr. S. W. Rich, of Hobart, N. Y., who has been sued by his rich neighbor for \$1,500 damages, and also to compel him to move his apiary.

It seems that his neighbor is more troubled in mind over the alleged nuisance than in reality. He boasts that he will do all that money can get done to compel the removal of the bees. The apiary is in a small village, but there never has been a case reported of either a man or beast being stung; neither has there been any trouble caused by them. It seems to be a real case of disagreeable fault-finding.

Mr. C. H. Dibbern, in the *Flowman*, sensibly suggests the following:

I can easily imagine cases where bees would become a nuisance, and the continued keeping of them would be an imposition, to say the least. Yet I am satisfied that most of such complaints have but slight foundations. There are some people who cannot see others prosper, and such are usually the complaining ones. Of course every bee-keeper should do everything possible to prevent his bees annoying any one. He should select such a location for the apiary that will be least objectionable to neighbors. If his apiary adjoins another man's land, plant a row of rapidly growing trees near such line, and train the branches to form a sort of hedge. This is also a good plan near a public road, where bees might interfere with teams passing. It is a good plan to have the apiary in a grove of small trees, and compel the bees to fly straight up, for when they are once high up in the air they will never bother to come down to annoy anything.

The National Convention will be held in Indianapolis on Oct. 12, 13 and 14, 1886. *Rays of Light* remarks as follows concerning that meeting:

We urge especially all Indiana bee-keepers to begin now to arrange to attend this meeting; it is a rare opportunity for us, and we should show by our attendance our appreciation of the favor conferred by holding it in our State, and that we are not lacking in enthusiasm and energy in our beloved enterprise, bee-culture. We hope and expect this to be the largest and most interesting meeting yet held by the association.

Foster's adjustable case for comb honey has been received and placed in our Museum. It was described and illustrated on page 377, in an article by Mr. Foster, and further description now is unnecessary. Its use is fully described in his pamphlet on "How to Raise Comb Honey," which can be obtained at this office for 5 cents.

The Tri-State Fair will be held at Toledo, O., on Sept. 6 to 11, 1886. Dr. A. B. Mason, of Wagon Works, O., is the Supt. of the Apiary Department again this year. The premiums amount to about \$135 in cash, besides diplomas, etc.

Frank Cheshire's new book on Bees and Bee-Keeping, can be had at this office.—Vol. I, bound in cloth, \$2.50, postpaid.

Italian Queens.—We have a few untested queens which we can send by return mail. Three for \$2.75; six for \$5.00; twelve for \$9.00.



AND

Replies by Prominent Apiarists.

[It is useless to ask for answers to Queries in this Department in less time than one month. They have to wait their turn, be put in type, and sent in about a dozen at a time to each of those who answer them; get them returned, and then find space for them in the JOURNAL. If you are in a "hurry" for replies, do not ask for them to be inserted here.—Ed.]

Bees Hanging Out.

Query, No. 286.—What would be the best, under the present circumstances, to prevent the bees in the entire apiary from hanging out all over the outside of the hives? The weather is and has been very warm the past week—say 90° in the shade, from about 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and then goes down to 85° until 10 p.m. The operations of the hives are nearly stopped during these hours, although the bees have plenty of brood and storage room. The hives have pitch-roof covers, and are ventilated at both ends with holes with wire-cloth over them, and they are deep enough to hold a crate of 28 one-pound sections each. I have no sections on the majority of them, but have them tiered up two stories high, and working for extracted honey. They are pretty well shaded, but I have enameled cloth over the tops of the frames in the second story, but still there is plenty of air-space between the cloth and the ventilating holes. I tried a few by taking off the cloth, but they crowded up in the cover. I smoked them, but in vain; they only work some from 4:30 a.m. to about 9 a.m., and then from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. There is no sign of preparing to swarm, or any other trouble, but simply idleness and signs of suffocation. They keep up a terrible hum, notwithstanding there is plenty of bloom and nectar in the fields.—Mississippi.

Give them more air by raising the hive off the bottom-board. Perhaps there is no honey in the blossoms, if they do not work.—DADANT & SON.

Try Mr. L. C. Root's plan, of a large ventilator in the bottom-board, as given in the BEE JOURNAL not long ago.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

From the statements made I judge there is no honey in the fields for the bees to gather. If they are bringing honey freely, give them another story of frames. If the first supposition is correct, there is nothing to do for them, as there is nothing for them to do.—J. E. POND, JR.

I should give a large entrance, at least 1 foot long and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide. I should also cover above the hive with a wide shade-board raised at least 4 inches above the hive. With this I can always keep bees at work when there is honey or nectar to gather.—A. J. COOK.

I should say that they want bottom ventilation. Raise the hive up from the platform from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch high. At least that is just what I would do in this locality.—H. D. CUTTING.

You might try moving the second story forward so as to leave chance for a current of air through the brood-chamber from the entrance to the open space at the upper and back part of the brood-chamber.—C. C. MILLER.

I think all this is caused by the lack of nectar in the flowers. I have seen the same thing during a dearth of honey in hot weather. It is not objectionable, except that it shows there is little honey to be gathered.—W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Use thin-walled hives; keep them well shaded, and have no double walls between the bees and "all-outdoors" over either the brood or surplus department. Give abundance of lower ventilation, and try upper ventilation, if you choose. With the hives you have, adapt them to the above conditions as nearly as possible. Do not let your colonies "clog" the combs with honey.—JAMES HEDDON.

During such spells of weather as you mention, my apiary presents the very same appearance you so lucidly describe. There is no help for it. You are mistaken about there being plenty of nectar in the flowers in the heat of the day during such heated periods. The absence of nectar at such times is the main cause of bees clustering on the outside of the hives in idleness—in my locality. Ventilation below, and the admission of air between the cloth and hive-cover is the best I can do under such circumstances.—G. W. DEMAREE.

In your apiary I know of no infallible plan to prevent the bees from hanging out. Give more shade to your hives. This will relieve the inside heat to some extent; but when bees can only work a few hours in the morning, before the hot, dry air dissipates the nectar in the flowers, and have to remain idle the balance of the day, they will hang out for the reason that it is more comfortable outside than in. "Hanging out" is not always a sign that the hive is filled with honey or crowded with bees. In dull seasons, weak colonies destitute of stores will often hang out. Too close extracting will sometimes cause a sort of demoralization of the bees, and they will cluster out.—J. P. H. BROWN.

When the temperature is 90° and above in the shade, it is too warm for many bees to stay in a hive without large bottom ventilation. We have had such weather here, and I find the narrow, 7-frame, single-walled hives cooler than any double-walled hive. Raise the hives up from the bottom-boards on blocks at the corners. There will be no danger of robbing if a 2-inch space be given all around. Let no bees into the cap, as they will be sure to go to the top and build comb there. A cap to a hive is a nuisance any way. With single-

walled hives and plain covers, ventilation can best be given at the top at high temperatures.—G. L. TINKER.

The cause of the bees hanging out and remaining idle, is because there is nothing for them to do. It is no proof of "plenty of nectar in the fields" because there is plenty of bloom. Give them a feed in the open air at any time when they are hanging out on the hives, and it will satisfy you why they are idle.—H. R. BOARDMAN.

Cause of Worker-Bees Dying.

Query, No. 287.—Last week I found a couple of quarts of dead worker bees in front of the hive of my first swarm of the season. I had taken off 24 sections, and have since taken 46, and more are nearly ready to come off. No apparent harm has been done, but I would like to know the cause of their dying.—Grinnell, Iowa.

Probably some other swarm tried to join them and a fight ensued.—DADANT & SON.

In all probability the dead bees are the remains of some stray swarm that went into the hive and was killed.—J. P. H. BROWN.

I should say that a stray swarm tried to enter the hive and was killed.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

The cause can only be guessed at. It might have been a small swarm that attempted to join the colony.—W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Perhaps a small swarm tried to force an entrance and was killed.—C. C. MILLER.

Probably some little after-swarm tried to enter the hive of your "first swarm of the season," and was dispatched by that colony.—JAMES HEDDON.

Hard work and old age. I have often found bees dead in the field, and even on flowers. This is what we might call "dying in the harness."—A. J. COOK.

Who can tell? I confess I cannot. It might be robbers or old workers, and it might be many other things that caused the trouble. From the data given a guess only can be made.—J. E. POND, JR.

I had a like experience to the one you describe, the present season. I attributed it to the attempt of some bees trying to enter the hive when a swarm was in the air. Something of the kind was the cause of the trouble in your case. A colony that has a queen will not tolerate the intrusion of other bees.—G. W. DEMAREE.

It not infrequently happens that a colony of bees quarrel over the superseding of a queen, when a quart or more of bees will be killed and scattered over the ground in front of the hive. Their contracted abdomens will show that they have been stung. Sometimes the party of discontent is vanquished, but generally not. I have

opened hives during such battles and found the queen "balled," or a queen-cell started, or both.—G. L. TINKER.

Natural Swarms or Nuclei—Which?

Query, No. 288.—Does it pay to let bees swarm? Or is it best to form nuclei? Or does it pay to let them hang on the hive 5 or 8 days, waiting for them to swarm, and very likely they do not swarm at all, as I have had them to do this before, and those colonies were the very ones that had to be fed in the winter?—W. A. MO.

1. No. 2. Yes. 3. No.—DADANT & SON.

1. Yes. 2. Yes. 3. Give room so they can work instead of hanging out.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

1. There are many opinions in regard to this matter, and each must decide for himself. 2. I most certainly should divide ordinarily. If, however, no honey was being gathered from the fields, the bees would be very excusable for not working, there being nothing for them to do.—J. E. POND, JR.

It will pay to let bees swarm if you want increase. If bees are managed rightly, and given room at the right time, and in the right way, they will not hang out in idleness if there is nectar in the flowers. Sometimes a colony will seem to waste time in an unaccountable way, but they are exceptions to the general rule; under proper management, dividing such colonies will break the spell.—G. W. DEMAREE.

If increase is desired it may pay to let them swarm, but even for this object it would be still better to divide. If I were working the bees for honey, I should not want over one swarm from a colony, and if there was no demand for bees, I should not allow any increase. My experience is, that strong colonies that do not swarm, if in a normal condition, and with a fair season, will always gather enough to winter on. If they fail to do this, then the fault belongs to the season and not to the bees.—J. P. H. BROWN.

It pays usually to let them swarm. If bees "hang out" five or eight days during a flow of honey, when they have room for storing it, are shaded, and have sufficient entrance to the hive, etc., I should say it was a very poor strain of bees, and should change the queens at once. There is much "food for thought" in the above query.—W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

If they are ready to swarm, and you find it convenient, then let them swarm. If it is more to your convenience form nuclei and build up. I have to do this, and find it works well. If the bees do not swarm as I wish them to do, I make them contribute to build up nuclei. Did not poor management keep them idle?—A. J. COOK.

Whether it pays to make increase by dividing colonies, or to encourage or discourage natural swarming, de-

pends upon circumstances that I know not of in your case. At no time should your bees be idle, "hanging on the hives," increase or no increase, if there is nectar to be gathered.—JAMES HEDDON.

1. Yes, in some cases. 2. In some cases, yes. 3. It does not pay to let them hang on the hive waiting. What are you doing all this time? I do not keep that kind of a queen long.—H. D. CUTTING.

Let the bees swarm if they cannot be prevented by giving them surplus room early, and as often as they need it. There will be no loss of honey in the operation, if properly managed, and only a little more work for the apiarist. If the bees lay out, refusing to work in the sections when honey is coming in, I would place in the super a partly-filled section from another colony, and get comb-building started. If the bees that hang out are found full of honey, they are not idlers though they do not swarm at all. They are secreting wax if comb-building is going on inside of the hive.—G. L. TINKER.

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

We supply the *American Bee Journal* one year, and any of the following publications, at the prices quoted in the last column of figures. The first column gives the regular price of both. All postage prepaid.

	Price of both.	Club
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To create Honey Markets in every village, town and city, wide-awake honey producers should get the Leaflets "Why Eat Honey" (only 50 cents per 100), or else the pamphlets on "Honey as Food and Medicine," and scatter them plentifully, and the result will be a DEMAND for all of their crops at remunerative prices. "Honey as Food and Medicine" are sold at the following prices:

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To give away a copy of "Honey as Food and Medicine" to every one who buys a package of honey, will sell almost any quantity of it.

To any one sending us one new subscriber with their own renewal (with \$2.00), we will present a copy of the new "Convention History of America."



Explanatory.—The figures BEFORE the names indicate the number of years that the person has kept bees. Those AFTER, show the number of colonies the writer had in the previous spring and fall, or fall and spring, as the time of the year may require.

This mark ⊙ indicates that the apiarist is located near the center of the State named; ♂ north of the center; ♀ south; ♂ east; ♀ west; and this ♂ northeast; ♀ northwest; ♂ southeast; and ♀ southwest of the center of the State mentioned.

For the American Bee Journal.

Caging and Introducing Queen-Cells.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Years ago it was ascertained that if a colony of bees had been queenless from 24 to 48 hours, a queen-cell of any stage of advancement might be given this colony, and the colony accept the queen hatching therefrom the same as it would one hatched from its own brood. Advantage was taken of this to change inferior stock to such stock as was desired, and what has been known as the "cell plan," has been more largely used for the improvement of stock during the past century than any other.

When the queen traffic sprang up, so that the bee-keepers reared queens and sold them the same as other stock was sold, it became an object to place a nearly mature queen-cell in a colony or nucleus, at the same time the queen to be sent off was taken away. Upon trial it was found that the bees did not propose at all times to accept of such an exchange, and especially before they had realized that their laying queen had been taken away from them. Their non-acceptance of cells given in this way proved with me to be a rule, although a few have reported favorably. In fact, unless I waited from 36 to 48 hours after the removal of a laying queen, before giving a cell, 19 out of every 20 would be destroyed; while other apiarists have reported nearly the same result. As waiting two days every time a queen was sold from a nucleus before a cell was given, and then from one to two more before it hatched, was quite expensive, I tried many plans to obviate the difficulty, none of which gave me satisfaction.

One night, after thinking the matter over, I fell asleep. After sleeping an hour or two I suddenly awoke with the vision of a cage for caging queen-cells appearing before me. Now the idea of caging queen-cells is old, and cages specially adapted for this purpose have been advertised for a good many years, but the ideal cage presented before me at this time was for the special purpose of allowing the safe introduction of a queen-cell nearly mature, to a colony at the time

of taking away its queen, the cage being so constructed that the queen could hatch and walk right out among the bees the same as if no cage was there; while at the same time the cell was safely secured against the bees, so they would not destroy it.

All are aware that when the bees destroy a cell they bite into the side or base of it, and never at the point. Well, the cage I saw upon awaking was to be made so as to protect all parts of the cell from the bees except the point, and this was not easy to their mandibles. The cage was made by rolling a small piece of wire-cloth around a V-shaped stick, so that a small but not very flaring funnel was made, the hole in the small end being as large as an ordinary lead-pencil. After making the cage I cut off a piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch cork for a stopper, put a nearly mature queen-cell into the cage with the point down into the lead-pencil hole as far as it would go, when the piece of cork was put in so the bees could not get at the base.

I now took a fine wire and run it through the meshes of wire-cloth just above the cork, so as to keep the cork in place, while the other end of the wire was bent so it would hold on to the top of the frames, so as to hold the cage in the position I wished it between the combs. This caged cell was hung in the hive at the time the queen was removed, and in from 24 to 48 hours, according to the age of the cell, I had a nice virgin queen in the hive. As soon as I saw that it was a success, I made more cages, so that now I have no more trouble with bees destroying queen-cells, not having a cell destroyed when thus caged.

The cage protects the cell everywhere except at the point, but allows the bees to get accustomed to the presence of the cell the same as if the cage were not there. The lead-pencil hole allows the queen to hatch the same as if the cell were not caged, while the bees can feed the queen and hold her in the cell as long as they please, so that she cannot get out till they are ready to accept her.

After getting thus far, about a month ago another thought came to me, which was, that I had some old queens which were not keeping their hives filled with brood as I desired, and why could I not use my invention in this case, so as not to lose any time to the colony of bees, to any nuclei, or to be to the expense of purchasing any queens? To think was to act, and the next day found me putting a caged queen-cell into each hive which had a queen that did not come up to my standard of prolificness. In a few days I looked into these colonies, finding that in every case the queens had hatched all right, and in all the hives thus treated, all but one had the old queen quietly depositing eggs, while on another comb was my young virgin queen as much at home as if no other queen was in the hive. In the one exception, I found the young queen out at the entrance dead, showing that although the bees could not prevent her hatching, yet they decided they had no use for her. In this they were correct, for in this case

their queen has since come up to the standard of prolificness that I require. The young queens in all the other hives became fertilized in due time, and one after another of the old queens passed away, except one which still has both the old and the young queen laying in the same hive, and often on the same comb.

Another thing: None of these colonies thus treated have swarmed, save one, but have kept steadily at work giving me a nice lot of honey, while other colonies having good queens last spring, have done less, owing to their disposition to swarm.

After the honey harvest begins to wane is the time with the bees for a general superseding of oldish queens, in this locality. For this reason I am now rearing a fine lot of cells from my most valued queen, which cells are soon to be used in the above described cages, a cage being placed in every hive I have reason to think may have a queen that is not good for another year, thus getting a queen from choice stock in every hive where an exchange is to be made. If the queen does not need superseding, and the bees kill the queen hatching from the cell, I am out only a little trouble, while in every one which is accepted I get much value.

The above is only an item which I have studied out, and if as good as I believe it to be, it will only be an item to be added to the general fund of knowledge. As I have freely gathered item upon item of value from the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL in the past, so I as freely give this item to the readers, that we may be of mutual benefit to each other, and help to make the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of the present what it has always been in the past—the best exponent of bee-knowledge in the world.

Borodino, © N. Y.

For the American Bee Journal.

Report, Honey-Dew, etc.

C. W. DAYTON.

Our chance to obtain a honey crop has again come and gone. I think that figuring for the last 12 years it hardly equals an average, but of the last 5 years it was somewhat above the average. The honey-flow began very suddenly on June 7, and very dry weather caused a slow and steady yield for 35 days, ending July 12 with basswood. The colonies run about 100 pounds each, part comb and part extracted honey, with 90 per cent, increase. One colony gathered 462 pounds of surplus besides a winter supply, and in amount it was closely followed by two others. Twenty other colonies only stored enough for winter after building up.

I had the bees equally divided in two apiaries of 58 colonies each, and three miles apart, and while 50 or more swarms issued in one apiary not one issued in the other: so I easily cared for the two apiaries alone.

To get a large yield the bees should be of the right age, should not have much brood to care for, should be shaded, have plenty of room for honey, and should not desire to swarm. By close attention these conditions may be easily brought about, but a small amount of neglect may overturn any one of these conditions and effect an immense difference in the amount of honey gathered. For example: The stories for extracting should be adjusted just before the queen is ready to place eggs in queen-cells. If we wait until eggs are placed in queen-cells, nine times out of ten it will cause swarming, idleness, and perhaps annoyance and vexation to the apiarist. If we furnish the space in time, and as fast as it is needed, and that space is immediately occupied, a colony may be easily carried through the season without swarming, and by that plan I run an apiary through the season without the issue of a swarm.

For years, while Mr. O. O. Poppleton and others located only a few miles east of here, have been reporting yields of 100 pounds per colony without the aid of basswood, I have been making desperate efforts, but always failed to equal it, until this year when I partly solved the mystery. Perhaps some may look upon the figures that I have given as useful in bringing about low prices on honey.

It may be outside the boundaries of my "say," but if such opinions are admissible, I would venture that the harping upon such subjects as the aphidæ product, or "bug-juice," may bring out a rival of the famous (?) Wiley. It has been proven what some kinds of honey-dew is, and where it comes from, and it ought not to be held up as extensively existing. If bee-keeping is to become an industry, its mysteries should disappear and its most pleasing features greet the view of the injurious.

On page 419 the Attorney General of this State presumes to answer the question, "Are bees taxable in Iowa?" He says they are not in the list of exempt property, so they must be taxable. Again, we find that they are not in the list of taxable property, so again we infer that they are exempt from taxation. But there is one thing we know, and that is, that there is a special law in Iowa making bees exempt from taxation. Now, what remains is, whom to look to for this law on bees—our legislature, sundry officers, or a vicious neighbor. I am not specially opposed to the taxation of bees, as I pay taxes on my bees every year, while I still know them to be exempt; yet I am not certain but the uncertainty of apiculture and the mutual benefit of bees should be enough to make them exempt from taxation. Perhaps a powerful "bee-keepers' union" might bear upon our law-making powers so as to turn that point in our favor. All of the laws apiculture will admit of will be erected as soon as it becomes an industry, and will be to a large extent at our favor or disfavor, according to the dollars and brains accumulated in its defense. This

shows one of the reasons why every bee-keeper should join the "Union."
Bradford, δ Iowa.

For the American Bee Journal.

Horse Killed by Bees, etc.

FRIEDEMANN GREINER.

In my experience with bees, the killing of any animal by stings had not come under my observation as yet. Yesterday I witnessed a case which dispensed with all my doubt about the possibility of the thing. J. V. Weir, Esq., left his riding-horse by the gate of his dooryard, as usual, while he went to dinner. An apiary of 45 colonies was within three rods of the spot where the horse was tied, and the bees in great numbers attacked it in our absence of not over 12 minutes. When we discovered the state of affairs, the horse's head was almost covered with mad bees and swarms of them around it, which would sting everything and everybody anywhere near. I could not induce the animal to move at first, and to protect it I kept it covered with blankets; but after awhile, and after procuring more help, I succeeded in getting it out of the reach of the bees, and we then applied remedies, as washing with cold water and soda, then besmearing with linseed oil; internally we gave whisky with laudanum, but all efforts were in vain, and the poor animal after a struggle of three hours was dead.

Moral: Let us not give cause for complaint to our neighbors and the public in general by keeping bees near the roads nor in closely-settled places; let us surround our apiaries by high fences, and, still better, by evergreen hedges. Other suggestions could no doubt be made. An abnormal case of this kind may not occur in one's life time, but that it can, should be reason enough that we should be careful and take the necessary precautions against the possibility of its occurrence.

The honey season with us still continues to be good, contrary to Mr. Brown's statement (page 443) of the honey season being nearly over. Some of our colonies filled 24 1-lb. sections from July 12 to July 20; that does not look much like a slack. Virginia will furnish quantities of honey this year.

White Post, δ Va., July 22, 1886.

For the American Bee Journal.

"Bird's-Eye View of Bee-Keeping."

DR. C. C. MILLER.

I make no question as to the general truth contained in Solomon's statement about there being no new thing under the sun, but it hardly applies literally to Rev. W. F. Clarke's new book, "A Bird's-Eye View of Bee-Keeping." A book entirely devoted to bee-keeping, and every word of it in poetry, is certainly a new thing to me. I would like to give the readers

of the BEE JOURNAL a fair description of this little book, but how can I unless I quote almost the whole book in its practical form? As the entire work costs only 25 cents, it can easily be obtained by all, so I will content myself with sampling its pages here and there. Its author says:

This treatise is for novices, and such should take care not at first to attempt too much.

Then follows advice as to books and papers to be obtained "before a bee is bought."

None should attempt the business till they learn it. Or hope to make a cent unless they earn it. None who are seeking a soft place to lie on. Need trouble themselves this pursuit to try on.

If you propose to be a specialist In keeping bees, permit me to assist Your cogitations, by, in brief, suggesting A few pre-requisites before investing. That knowledge of the business and then fitness To follow it are needful, facts bear witness. But what is fitness? Well, it is, in part, To have quick eye, soft hand, and lion-heart; A mind to grasp the most minute details, And, with it all, patience that never fails. Promptness to do all work in its right season, And clear perception from the facts to reason. It is to have a perfect self-control, And let alone the intoxicating bowl— If you this evil habit once begin, An apiary never set your foot in. A hopefulness that never fails or flags, A diligence that neither loafs nor lags, High moral principle that scorns to cheat, And makes a point all honor's claims to meet. The golden rule and law of love your aim, And your best treasure an untarnished name. If you are wholly ignorant of bees, And yet possess such qualities as these, You must content yourself to be a creeper, Along the road that makes a good bee-keeper. Go slowly, do not be in foolish haste, Nor think that your time and money waste In making full and careful preparation, For entering on your chosen avocation.

The author varies the usual advice and says:

Beginners, I advise to raise comb honey Until they scrape together enough money To purchase an extractor, palia, and things, Necessity for which extracting brings.

When hiving a swarm,

Be sure that your new hive is clean and neat, Smear it with beeswax and with honey sweet, Have no foul smell about it, for the bees Are mostly all old-maids, whom you must please By making things quite tidy and "so-so," Else in a fit of dudgeon, off they go!

I go for out-door wintering, on a stand Where you can manage them with ready hand, Free from laborious lifting to and fro, Which makes the luckless bee-man's back ache so. I set my hives two feet above the ground Where ease of handling them is always found. The man who first devised a four-inch stool To set his hives on was an arrant fool, And needlessly condemned himself to stoop Till with fatigue and pain his spirits droop.

Of course "hibernation" is not omitted.

And now, the season's cycle is complete, The summer hours march on, with nimble feet, Soon once again the welcome time will come When honey-gathering bees, with cheerful hum, Will do the work they understand so well, And store sweet nectar in each vacant cell, Smoothing and polishing the surface all With that small towel, we a dagger call, But which by them employed so much is In giving honey-comb its final touches.

Then after some advice on a few special topics, the book closes with—

Farewell, and in a brighter world than this, May you enjoy a life of perfect bliss; Where thrilling music through the welkin rings, And nectar sweet is gathered without stings!

Marengo, δ Ills.

The St. Joseph, Mo., Inter-State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday evening of the Exposition week, September 30, 1886. Arrangements are being made to have an interesting meeting. The place of holding the meeting will be published in our local papers on Tuesday and Wednesday a.m.

H. T. ABBOTT, Sec.

For the American Bee Journal.

The New Honey-Plant.

T. F. BINGHAM.

The "Chapman Honey-Plant" is not only pleasant to behold, but it is unusually attractive to honey-bees and their larger cousins—the beautiful humble-bees. I shall not presume to predict—and as only three buds are yet open, it would not be safe to say that it is the only plant likely to prove a success as an exclusive honey-plant. This, however, may be said, that it is a vigorous grower, and may be easily raised; perhaps it would grow without special care. As all the readers of the BEE JOURNAL may not be able to see the plant in bloom, I will briefly describe it.

It grows from 3 to 4½ feet high, and has on each root or crown from 6 to 16 buds or heads. These buds are round like an apple, and from 1 to 1½ inches in diameter. The surface of this bud is covered with small white flowers having bluish stamens. Like clover, the whole sphere is not in bloom at one time. The top opens first and gradually continues to open down the sides for about four days. The heads or buds are of all sizes and ages, and will require at least three weeks to mature and bloom. It is therefore safe to conclude that it will continue to attract bees not less than the above-mentioned period of time.

It will be observed that I do not state that bees gather honey from it, but that the flowers are very attractive to bees, and from the fact that only three of my plants are in bloom, and that only one head on each of the three plants is yet open, no doubt people not enthusiastic will be surprised that any one should presume to call attention to such a plant on so slight an acquaintance.

I must say that while I should have been incredulous as to the interest bees take in it, had that interest been described to me, I should not have been more incredulous than I was surprised when I found ten honey-bees and one humble-bee on a single head at one time, all busy in extracting nectar. The three heads now in bloom are not without from 3 to 10 or 15 bees on each one all the time. The bees do not seem to be interested in the pollen of the flower, although it has it in abundance, but continue to thrust their tongues to the bottom of the flowers. One of the peculiar features of their visits to the flower is the long time they remain upon them.

How extensively these plants have been distributed among bee-keepers, I cannot say; all I can say is, that as I am able to regard Mr. Chapman (Capt. Chapman, as he is familiarly called where he lives) as a tried friend, having lived by and known him for a period of 20 years, it was not strange, though entirely unexpected, that I should be made the delighted recipient of 50 of the above plants by express last spring, in time to observe the bees upon them, still in too small numbers to really know the amount of honey produced.

It is of importance that they bloom when they do—just after clover and basswood are past. Particularly is this true in a dry season like this, when, after July 6 (the close of the basswood honey season here), bees could find no flowers to visit, and of course an unusually large number of sections are left incomplete.

If now a plant like the Chapman honey-plant could come forward and furnish honey for even a few days, until the uncapped sections could be rounded off and completed, it would add greatly to the income of my beehive.

Abronia, ♀ Mich.

Rural New Yorker.

One thing that Fraud cannot Counterfeit.

A. J. COOK.

I am surprised to note the following response to an inquiry in the Farmers' Club of a late *Rural New Yorker*: "It is probably true that men, without the aid of bees, now make and sell comb honey in which neither wax nor honey is used; and that the comb is made of paraffine and filled with a substance like honey." Now, Mr. Editor, I wish to say that the above is not only not probably true, but that it is utterly absurd, mischievously false, and entirely impossible. No such thing has ever been done, and it is very certain that no such thing ever can be done. Only Nature's deft and delicate fingers can fashion the beautiful white, incomparable comb honey. Comb honey is one thing that fraud cannot counterfeit. Whoever purchases the beautiful, white, incomparable comb honey, may be sure that he has Nature's product, pure and genuine. A few years ago Prof. H. W. Wiley, now Chemist of the Agricultural Department at Washington, published an interesting article on sugar, in the *Popular Science Monthly*, in which he made the above statement, apparently in all soberness. Afterward, when Prof. Wiley was called upon for proof of what was palpably absurd to any one who knows of the real nature of comb honey—a substance which is clearly imitable—he replied: "I only wrote it as a scientific pleasantry." This statement was apparently as candid and earnest as any part of the article, and so was widely copied by the press of the country, and now, like all untruthful statements it is, ever and anon, lifting its ungracious head only to do mischief.

Comb honey owes its excellence to very delicate structure. The cell-walls of the comb are only 1-140 of an inch in thickness, and thus the delicate wax breaks up in the mouth almost without any extraneous force, and just serves to reduce or dilute the exquisite honey, and so becomes one of the coveted articles of diet. It seems almost like sacrilege to say that such an incomparable article can be made artificially. As before stated, it is utterly impossible, never has been done, and never can be done. I hope, Mr. Editor, you will publish this correction at once, and that the

many papers that have spread the error may be equally quick to fling out the correction; even then much wrong will be done, for as we all know, falsehood will traverse the globe, while Truth is hitching up her horse.

Agricultural College, ♀ Mich.

For the American Bee Journal.

Taxing Colonies—Non-Swarming Bees.

J. E. POND, JR.

Mr. Camm, on page 454, in discussing the matter of taxation of bees, may have been surprised and disappointed by the answers given to Mr. Blair's query, and why he should be so, is plain from the reading between the lines of his article. Insofar as my own answer is concerned, I have to say that I answered the question as I then understood and now understand it. The matter was not inquired into, whether bees ought to be taxed or not, either morally or as a business proposition; the question being whether bees could be legally taxed, and were so taxed in any of the States or not. I said and still say that an apiary is as subject legally to taxation as any other species of personal property, statute exemption being the only means of relief therefrom. In answering I spoke only for my own State—Massachusetts.

Mr. Southwick makes the point that bees are not absolute property, consequently legally exempt from taxation. In this he is partially correct. A colony of bees hived in my own apiary are absolutely my property, they are solely under my control, and if stolen the thief is punishable for the larceny, which would not be the case were they not absolute property. They fall under the same category as pigeons or doves, and are not *ferae naturae* while in my hives and located in my apiary, any more than are pigeons or doves when in the cote of the owner.

As to the point that if a "hue and cry" was made in the matter, all bees would be taxed anyhow, the remark was made jocularly, and I supposed it would be so understood. To Mr. Camm I will simply say, the communistic idea that nothing but real estate should be taxed under any circumstances is hardly a question for discussion in a bee-paper, else I might give him my views on the subject, which, although based on political economy, are decidedly in favor of the idea that all products that possess an intrinsic merchantable value should be taxed for public support.

Mr. Pryal, on page 456, gives us a novel way or manner of obtaining favorable decisions from the courts of highest resort in the various States. The same thing was hinted at in the *BEE JOURNAL* a few weeks ago. As a lawyer, all I can say in regard to the proposition is, that our Massachusetts courts would disbar an attorney who should bring a fictitious suit before them for the purpose of getting an opinion or decision. We have some

rights; I for one would prefer to have them all trampled under foot, than maintained by fraud or evasion.

STRAIN OF NON-SWARMING BEES.

Have any of our bee-keepers on a large scale—say keepers of 100 or more colonies—ever attempted to form a strain of non-swarming bees by using queen-cells from which the queens were just ready to emerge, as the means of heading colonies, and following down on that line for several generations? This question is one of interest to myself, and theoretically I believe the plan is correct. Introduce a queen-cell just on the point of letting out the young queen, say on the fifteenth day; keep close watch of this hive, and draw from it in the same way before a swarm issues; continue this plan for two or three years, and I think and believe that a non-swarming strain will result. In order to carry the point to a nicety, the drone mothers should be produced in the same way.

I have been able only to test the matter slightly, as my apiary is small. It is possible that the majority would not care for a non-swarming strain; still, as a matter of experiment, it might prove interesting, and of importance in ascertaining how far the matter of education can be carried. I have a colony that has not sent out a swarm for two years; the queen that now heads it is in her third year, and is the third generation from a queen-cell introduced as above, each of the intermediate queens, as well as this last one, having been introduced in cells from which they were just ready to emerge. This case alone proves nothing; still it is a straw or pointer; and if the same result should follow in a number of instances, I think the theory which I intimate would be well proved. Has any one the time and inclination to test the matter?

Foxboro, ♀ Mass.

Homestead.

Preparing Bees for Winter, etc.

O. CLUTE.

With the bees, winter is the time of quiet. But the wise bee-keeper will be active in the care of his little friends, for upon such care depends his success for the summer that is coming.

If bees are wintered in the cellar, care should be exercised as to the time of putting them into the cellar. If they are put in too early the weather will be warm, the cellar will be at too high a temperature, and the bees will be injured by too great activity. The hives should not be put into the cellar until cold weather really sets in. They should be carried in on a cold, dry day. In carrying them in they should be disturbed as little as possible. If the temperature of the cellar is not above 50° they will soon be quiet after being put in. See that the cellar is perfectly dark, that it is well ventilated, that it is as quiet as is possible, that it is free

from rats and mice, and that the temperature is kept as near as may be at 45°. If it goes up to 50° occasionally, no harm seems to result. If now and then it falls to nearly the freezing point, no harm ensues. But keep it as near as you conveniently can at 45°.

Bees wintered on the summer stands have probably been protected in some manner. See to it that the protection is all right. Have all entrances small. It is a good plan to put at each entrance somewhat early in the fall, a screen that will keep out mice but will let bees pass. Then when the mice begin to look about for a warm place in which to pass the winter they find their entrance to the hives barred. Mice have a great liking for making their nests on top of the frames, immediately over the cluster of bees. The heat from the bees keeps the nests warm, and the mice are very fond of eating the honey and pollen, and the bees also. If the entrances front east or south they will get less wind than if they front north or west. But a piece of board should always be stood before the entrance, leaning against the hive, so as to keep the wind from blowing directly into the entrance. Keep all hogs and cattle away from the yard where the bees are kept.

When snow comes it is wise to bank it closely against the hives, all around except over the entrance. Some reliable men advise putting it over the entrance too, and they relate how they have wintered bees successfully under a snow bank which completely covered the hives. Perhaps snow over the entrance is sufficiently pervious by the air, so that bees will not smother; but there is always danger that the entrance to the hive will become filled with ice, by the freezing of water that runs out from the condensation of moisture in the hives. If the entrance does thus become clogged with ice the bees will smother and die. Hence I do not advise banking snow against the entrance. If snow drifts all over the hives, I should advise that it be shoveled away from the entrances frequently, and that the bee-keeper assure himself that the entrances are not clogged with ice. Sometimes dead bees collect against the entrance inside the hive, and so prevents sufficient ventilation. This can be prevented by thrusting a small stick in and moving the dead bees to one side.

WINTER MEETINGS OF BEE-KEEPERS.

During the busy season of the year it is difficult for bee-keepers to get out to meetings. Much work keeps them at home. But in the winter they have more leisure. It would be well to have a winter meeting of our State Association in Des Moines, for listening to essays and addresses, and for practical discussions as to methods of work, and as to markets, and other questions of general importance to bee-keepers. In some States such meetings have been held for a number of years, and have proven of much interest and value. Our Iowa bee-keepers have thought much about

having such a meeting, but thus far it has not seemed possible to arrange one. But as our bee-keeping interests develop we shall doubtless be able to get the co-operation of a sufficiently large number of the most intelligent bee-keepers to make a profitable gathering.

Some of us find that railway fare and hotel bills in going to Des Moines for a meeting are a serious obstacle to our going. But this objection does not apply to meeting in each county. If the bee-keepers of each county would come together for a meeting, at least once during the winter, and discuss all questions of special interest to them, they would find many good results coming from the meetings. If an address from a really able man, or one or more essays from practical bee-keepers, can be prepared for such a meeting, it is well. But do not put men on for addresses or papers unless they know something about bee-keeping. Better have no address and no essays than to have the time wasted in listening to men who know nothing.

Some of the most profitable meetings of bee-keepers I have ever attended had no addresses and no essays; but they had a question-box. Each member wrote questions on slips of paper, put them into the box, the chairman drew them out and called on a competent man to answer. This often led to remarks from others, and we got thus the best practical knowledge of all on every question that was asked.

Iowa City, © Iowa.

For the American Bee Journal.

Results of the Season So Far.

I. J. GLASS.

Being incapacitated for manual labor by a fall from a load of hay, and judging the honey-flow about at an end, I thought it safe to report for the season. I have buckwheat sown, and we generally have an abundance of fall flowers, the principal ones being goldenrod and carpenter's square, so I anticipate a fall-flow of honey, but not sufficient to expect any surplus, as I always confine my colonies to the brood-chamber, and let them store the fall-flow for their own use. I have 12 colonies that averaged a little over 100 pounds each; some of them have stored 150 pounds, and on examining them yesterday I find very little honey in the brood-chamber, it being used to its fullest capacity for brood-rearing.

Some apiarists claim that it is safer to winter bees on white clover honey. I do not doubt that in the least, yet with me I find it difficult to grade the bees' food to comply with all the whims of the theorists, so I look to having a good, warm receptacle for them, either wet or dry, and not too much ventilation. As to their food, I depend upon the fall flow for the main portion of their winter stores, and I have never lost a colony yet in wintering. Last spring I took from

my cellar 61 colonies, one of which was very nearly starved, the queen and only about half of the bees being still alive. After they were through swarming out and deserting their hives (a freak to which my bees are addicted in early spring) I had 55 left; I now have 94 colonies, and they have produced 2,000 pounds of extracted and 1,500 pounds of comb honey. I have sold 400 pounds of comb honey for an average of 11 cents per pound, and 360 pounds of extracted honey for 8 cents per pound. I cannot get the big prices that I read about.

I could have done better with my bees, but being the assessor of our township, which includes the county-seat of 3,000 inhabitants, you may guess it was rather a hard job to be accomplished in two months, although I had the advantage of considerable experience, as this is my fourth term.

The season here has been remarkably good, but at present the long absence of rain has begun to show on vegetation, and unless it rains soon I fear our bees will be short of winter stores.

Sharpsburg, © Ills.

For the American Bee Journal.

Two Queens in One Hive.

E. C. KEPNER.

I have a colony of bees that cast a swarm about June 10, and at that time it had plenty of brood and several capped queen-cells. I put the section-boxes back again, and did not look at them until July 19, and, on opening the hive, to my surprise I found neither brood nor larvae; and supposing their queen had been lost in mating, I did not look for eggs, but went at once to a good, strong colony and got an old queen and introduced her to the supposed queenless colony. After leaving her caged for 48 hours I turned her loose, and they accepted her all right.

I thought nothing more of her until I happened to pass by the hive to-day, so I thought I would examine them and see how she was doing. I opened the hive and lifted a frame from the centre, and I at once noticed larvae which was too old to come from her laying, for she had only been free for three days; I turned the frame around and I saw a young queen. I then supposed my old queen was dead, but she was not, for on taking out the next frame I saw her on it busily depositing eggs. This proves that there had been two laying-queens, and also that they accepted an old laying-queen while at the same time they had a young laying-queen in the hive.

I have frequently seen two laying queens in the same hive, but it was the old queen and her daughter, but never before have I known a colony to accept a laying-queen when it had one.

Where did this young queen come from? It has been about 44 days since the old queen came out with

the swarm, and I know she came out, for I keep all my old queens' wings clipped, and I am always at the hive about as soon as a swarm commences to issue, so I know just where she is. If this queen hatched from one of the eggs of the old queen, and hatched in 16 days after the swarm issued (which is hardly probable, for they had capped queen-cells, as stated before), and had waited the full 21 days before laying, it would make the full 37 days; and I know that the colony was without a laying queen for that length of time, and as near as I can tell from the larvae, a little longer.

This young queen, I think, is a hybrid, and the colony spoken of are pure Italians. I have a few hybrid colonies in my apiary. Do you not suppose that that particular colony stole an egg from a hybrid colony and reared this young queen from it? This is my belief. But what about their accepting the old queen when they had a laying queen?

After fifty days of rain, the weather has become settled and is fine now, except the nights are a little cool; but our bees are doing nicely on sumac, and we will have plenty of bloom for two months yet, which will be mostly cow-peas, fall asters and goldenrod. Pikeville, O. Tenn., July 24, 1886.

Bee-Stings for Rheumatism.

A bee-keeper in Iowa informed a neighbor that the stinging of bees was a cure for rheumatism. As the neighbor was a sufferer from the disease, he concluded to try the remedy. The story in his own words is as follows:

"Thinks I, we've got the medicine right here at home, and it won't cost anything, and I will just try a few; I think people, as a rule, take too much medicine any way; better try more home remedies. So provided with a small paper sack and some courage (for I must confess I was always a little careful not to disturb bees, for it hinders them from gathering honey, you know), I held the open sack at their entrance and soon had it well filled with the buzzing creatures. I then made straight for the house, gave sack and bees to wife and held open my pants leg and said: 'Now start 'em up.' She pushed sack and all up arm's length, and laughed a little and asked, 'Are they going?' Says I, 'You bet!' Just then one administered, and I grabbed for him (as is natural on such occasions), and from that every last one laid to, and four doctors with eight resurrectors couldn't do business so lively as those bees did. I, in a rather commanding manner and tone, screamed for wife to take 'em out, but she seemed to be slow about it, so I got out, and left breeches and bees in the same room, and I went to bed in untold misery."

The sufferer was, however, not in so bad a plight as the genius who thought if a little was good, a good deal was better, and so had a whole colony emptied into bed with him.—*Exchange.*

Local Convention Directory.

1886. Time and place of Meeting.

- Aug. 31.—Stark County, at Canton, O.
Mark Thomson, Sec., Canton, O.
Sept. 4.—Sheboygan Co., at Sheboygan Falls, Wis.
Mattie B. Thomas, Sec., Sheboygan Falls, Wis.
Oct. 7.—Wis. Lake Shore Center, at Klei, Wis.
Ferd Zastrow, Sec., Mililhome, Wis.
Oct. 12-14.—North American, at Indianapolis, Ind.
F. L. Dougherty, Sec., Indianapolis, Ind.
Oct. 19, 20.—Illinois Central, at Mt. Sterling, Ills.
J. M. Hambaugh, Sec., Spring, Ills.
Dec. 1, 2.—Michigan State, at Ypsilanti, Mich.
H. D. Cutting, Sec., Clinton, Mich.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—Ed.

SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

"Paradise Regained."—P. P. Nelson, Manteno, O. Ills., on July 23, 1886, says:

We are having a very prosperous season with the "blessed bees;" compared with the past two seasons, it seems like "Paradise Regained." They have swarmed profusely, and have stored and are still gathering an abundance of the most beautiful honey.

Motherwort.—Jno. D. Gill, Phillipsburg, O. Pa., on July 26, 1886, wrote as follows:

1. I send by this mail a specimen of a plant on which bees have worked vigorously for several weeks. Please give its name and characteristics. It is a rare plant here. I have never noticed it before.

2. Do bees get honey or only pollen from asparagus?

[1. The plant is *motherwort*, which yields honey in abundance, and is a great favorite with the bees.

2. Asparagus furnishes nectar to the bees.—Ed.]

Leaves Containing Honey-Dew.—J. W. Sanders, Le Grand, O. Iowa, on July 20, 1886, writes:

I send a sample of leaves containing the so-called honey-dew. I desire Prof. Cook's opinion on it, through the BEE JOURNAL, as there are many bee-keepers interested in it, and I fear are misled about its origin. Some claim that there was so much sweet in the flowers; that it evaporates through the day, condenses at night, and is found in the form of dew on the foliage the following morning. The idea amused me, as I supposed it was from an aphid of some kind. So I went yesterday six miles and obtained these samples. They are not as good as could have been obtained two weeks ago. The leaves that are whitened are some that were covered with it then. I send several kinds of

leaves that contain more or less of it. The grove in which it is found is principally oak of small growth. I also send some of the leaves of the oak taken from the above place, where the sweet substance was to be found. Some leaves showed large drops of it, and others a fine spray. Yesterday it was only to be found in spots, while about two weeks ago it was generally on the lower foliage. The proprietor had not seen his bees working on it, but supposed they did. White clover and linden were at the time at their best, and he has a nice lot of fine comb honey in his apiary; but from what I could see and learn I think but little was from the so-called honey-dew. If my samples are sufficient, I hope the Professor will give the origin of this sweet substance, and tell us if it is produced in any other way except by plant-lice of some kind.

[The leaves and secretion are so well described by Mr. Sanders that I need not repeat. The nectar, as secreted, is in such quantity that we can get quite a taste. There are no cost skins of lice on the leaves, which there would be if the sweet was secreted by lice working on the leaves containing the sweet. With others I tasted of the nectar, and could plainly discern not only sugar—probably starch sugar—but also a perceptible taste like oak-juice or tannin. I presume this sweet comes from the same source as mentioned in the last number of the BEE JOURNAL, from acorns attacked by an insect. This would account for the peculiar oak-juice flavor, and for the appearance of the nectar in such considerable quantities in a single place; a wounded acorn was just above.

That the sweet secretions or nectar from flowers ever evaporate and then fall as dew, I have never seen reason to believe. I think that we can always find other explanations. Even in a sugar-house where hundreds of gallons of nectar are evaporated, we never find a deposit sufficient to attract insects, although in such a case a little sugar—very little, is driven off with the steam, probably by the explosive force of the steam.—A. J. Cook.]

Bee-Culture and Silk-Worms.—H. Fisher, Oshkosh, O. Wis., on July 18, 1886, writes:

While I am unable to report good news about my bees, on account of unsuccessful wintering, I am engaged in an industry as interesting as bee-culture, which proves more successful because the work is done before cold weather comes, and no keeping through the winter is necessary; I mean "silk-culture," which assumes

quite an important prospect. Several years ago I began to make the test with about fifty Russian mulberry-trees, and now I have many thousands of them, finding them perfectly hardy enough to stand our cold climate. They are excellent fast growers, which furnished me food for about forty thousand silk-worms, producing a fine, good quality of silk, which finds a ready sale this summer. I find it very interesting, pleasant and light work, similar to handling bees. Nearly 50,000 persons are engaged now in this new industry, but there is room yet for 100,000 more to supply our 380 silk mills with raw silk, besides the many new ones which will be started.

Bees Doing Well.—P. L. Gibson, Muscatine, Ia., on July 23, 1886, says:

Bees are doing well in this locality. I started with 22 colonies in the spring, and I have just doubled the number, all now being strong colonies. My last swarm was on June 24. White clover honey was pretty plentiful, but lasted only a short time, mostly being consumed by young bees. We have had no rain for four weeks. Bees are gathering some honey-dew, and are working mornings and evenings. I have taken off about 500 pounds, and there is that much more in the hives ready for capping. Should we have a rain soon we will get a bountiful crop of fall honey.

What? What?—J. H. Hassler, De Pue, Ills., on July 29, 1886, writes:

My nice white sections of honey are nearly all spoiled by being filled around the edge with some very dark honey, having the appearance of muddy water. From what is it gathered? I have some sunflowers in the garden for the first time, and as I never before had such honey I thought perhaps the bees got it from them. If I find that they are the source, I will cut them down at once.

[Cultivated sunflowers are of no value for honey, and may have caused the trouble, though it might be traced to some other bloom in the neighborhood of your apiary.—Ed.]

Are Bees a Nuisance?—Marshall Darling, Waterbury, Conn., on July 23, 1886, wrote as follows:

The trial of the suit against my keeping bees (as mentioned on page 339), came off in the District Court on June 28, before Judge Bradstreet. It took about all day to try the case. The Judge reserved his decision and has not given it yet, and may not until September, when the District Court meets again. The plaintiff could only prove in court that he had lost only 12 days rent—one family having moved out on May 13, and another one moved in on May 25 and paid the same rent. I still keep 12 colonies of bees. I have sold 11 colo-

nies. There is no complaint from them now. I never had bees do better than they are doing now. This is all the Waterbury *Evening American* said about the case: "To-day the District Court heard the very interesting case of George L. Stanley vs. Marshall Darling, application for an injunction to prevent the defendant from keeping bees. The plaintiff's house is situated close to where the bees are kept, and it is claimed that they are an injury."

Very Dry Weather, etc.—L. G. Purvis, Forest City, Mo., on July 26, 1886, says:

Bees have done very well here this season. I commenced with 48 colonies, have increased to 74 by natural swarms, and so far I have taken 3,220 pounds of extracted honey, and about 100 pounds of comb honey, with from 300 to 500 now ready to extract. It is very dry here; we have had no rain for a month, and I fear it will cut our fall crop short, which is usually good here.

Curing Foul Brood.—Dr. J. C. Thom, of Streetsville, Ontario, writes this request for publication, on July 28, 1886:

I would like to have the experience recorded in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of those who have tried the Cheshire method of curing *Bacillus alvei*, commonly called "foul brood," a disease which is not unknown in Canada. If those who reply have succeeded, will they kindly tell us just how they did it, and if it is a permanent cure?

[This is a good suggestion, and we would like to record the *modus operandi* if a cure was effected, as well as the disappointments of those who have experimented with it unsuccessfully, if such there are.—Ed.]

Bee-Keeping in Texas.—Jno. A. Emison, Mission Valley, Tex., on July 21, 1886, wrote:

After five year's experience in the handling of bees, I find much written in the bee-papers and bee-manuals that will not do in Western Texas. Experience though often a hard tutor is the one most to be relied upon. There is a universal wail going up from Western Texas. There is not one pound of surplus honey, and most of the colonies have died from starvation. I have 40 remaining out of 120 in May. The cause was a cold, backward spring, followed by a drought, and the failure in the horse-mint. I might for emphases of distress say tetotal failure of mint. My experience has been, no mint, no surplus honey. Thanks to a kind Providence the promised later rains came. My 40 colonies are now on a perfect "boom" from daylight until night, which puts a stop to their flight. I have been impressed with this fact, as brought to my notice by this sad loss in my apiary, viz: The fitness of

the black bee for this locality. I was congratulating myself upon having my apiary so nearly Italianized, but out of 6 pure black colonies I lost but one. My strongest colonies are the remaining 5 blacks. The advocates for Italians contend that they work earlier and later in the day, hence are better honey-gatherers. I do not find it so, but the reverse. The great objection I have to the black bee is its disposition to rob. I am in no wise discouraged. I have had quite a lot of comb to render. I wish to thank Mr. Demaree for the light he gave in the Query Department on the subject of wax-rendering. In fact I find more information boiled down to a few words in the "Queries" than I ever found in all the profuse and verbose articles. It is the wheat without the chaff.

Bloom in Mississippi.—L. J. de Sotbaker, Riverton, Miss., on July 6, 1886, says:

The weather has been and is still very pleasant for the gathering of nectar. We have now in full bloom all around us the Indian corn, and the bees are very busy on the tassels, extracting the nectar, which is a very clear and fine flavored sweet; but not having a tin evaporator prevents me from taking this delicious honey separately, and as there are also several other blooms at present there might be some difficulty in doing this, although by examining the surplus combs in the second story of the hives, the corn honey can be distinctly known, especially when having noticed the direction of the flight of the bees to the surrounding extensive corn-fields on the eastern side of the apiary; on the north, south and west is woods. The other bloom is, button-bush, alders, milk-weed, white clover, red clover, and a variety of others, their names, as yet, unknown to me; also a few magnolias, these latter having been planted and cultivated here, although about a hundred miles further south there was pointed out to me a place called Magnolia Bluff, where they grow in great abundance. There is no lack of variety of bloom at present, still I find that the gathering is not in proportion to the strength of the colonies. Occasionally we get a natural swarm, but they get so high up on large trees that they cannot be taken and hived in this busy season, with 142 colonies for one man.

Convention Notices.

The Cortland Union Bee-Keepers' Association will hold a basket picnic at Little York, N. Y., on Wednesday, Aug. 18, 1886. All interested in bee-culture, with their families, are cordially invited to attend and have a good time.
D. T. SHATTUCK, Sec., Homer, N. Y.

The Illinois Central Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next meeting at Mt. Sterling, Ills., on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 19-20, 1886. J. M. HAMBAUGH, Sec.

The next annual meeting of the Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Ypsilanti, Mich., on Dec. 1 and 2, 1886.
H. D. CUTTING, Sec.

The next meeting of the Stark County Bee-Keepers' Society will be held in Grange Hall, at Canton, O., on Aug. 31, 1886. M. THOMSON, Sec.



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 At One Dollar a Year.

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 BUSINESS MANAGER.

Special Notices.

To Correspondents.—It would save us much trouble, if all would be particular to give their P. O. address and name, when writing to this office. We have several letters (some inclosing money) that have no name; many others having no Post-Office, County or State. Also, if you live near one post-office and get your mail at another, be sure to give the address we have on our list.

Dr. Miller's Book, "A Year Among the Bees," and the BEE JOURNAL for one year, we will club for \$1.50.

A New Crate to hold one dozen one-pound sections of honey.—It has a strip of glass on each side, to allow the honey to be seen. It is a light and attractive package. As it holds



but one tier of sections, no damage from the drippings from an upper tier can occur. We can furnish the material, ready to nail, for 9 cts. per crate. Glass 1½c. per light, extra.

Italian Queens.—We can supply them by mail, postpaid, at the following prices: Untested, \$1.00; Tested, \$2.00; 6 Tested Queens for \$9.00. Orders filled at once.

Bees for Sale.—We offer to sell a few strong colonies of Italian bees, in ten-frame Simplicity hives, at \$6.00 each.

Red Labels for one-pound pails of honey, size 3x4½ inches.—We have just gotten up a lot of these Labels, and can supply them at the following prices: 100 for \$1.00; 250 for \$1.50; 500 for \$2.00; 1,000 for \$3.00; all with name and address of apiarist printed on them—by mail, postpaid.

System and Success.

All who intend to be systematic in their work in the apiary, should get a copy of the Apiary Register and commence to use it. The prices are reduced, as follows:

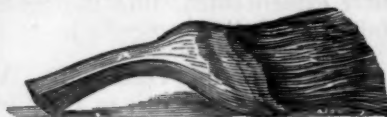
For 50 colonies (120 pages).....\$1 00
 " 100 colonies (220 pages)..... 1 25
 " 200 colonies (420 pages)..... 1 50

The larger ones can be used for a few colonies, give room for an increase of numbers, and still keep the record all together in one book, and are therefore the most desirable.

Simmins' Non-Swarming System is the title of a new English bee-book. The author claims that it will inaugurate a "new era in modern bee-keeping," and states that "it is based upon purely natural principles, and is the only system that can ever be relied upon, because no other condition exists in the economy of the hive that can be applied to bring about the desired result—a total absence of any desire to swarm." It contains 64 pages; is well printed and illustrated. Price 50 cents. It can now be obtained at this office.

The Series of Articles by prominent men of the country in the *Graphic News*, of Cincinnati, is attracting great attention and the best and highest praise. In the issue of July 31st, the Hon. Cassius M. Clay, of Kentucky, Ex-U. S. Minister to Russia, and one of the ablest statesmen of the land, will write upon "Forests and Rainfall." The subject is an especially interesting one, and is most effectively handled. In the issue of Aug. 6th will be printed a lithographic supplement of Mrs. Gov. Foraker, of Ohio, the first of a series of portraits of prominent people.

Yucca Brushes are employed for removing bees from the combs. They are a soft, vegetable fiber, and do not irritate the bees. As each separate fiber extends the whole length of the handle as well as the brush, they are almost indestructible.



When they become sticky with honey, they can be washed, and when dry, are as good as ever. The low price at which they are sold, enables any bee-keeper to have six or more of them, so as to always have one handy. We can supply them at 5 cents each, or 50 cents a dozen.

Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly for August gives a most attractive sketch by George Makepeace Towle of "The Nestor of Europe," the Emperor William of Germany. Daudet's sketch of "Tartarin in the Alps," and stories like Towner's "Hermon Drake's Ashes," Boutelle's "The Lost Lady," "An Unknown Name," and "A Scrap of Paper," will certainly tempt readers. Laura C. Holloway gives a very readable account of Lady Burdett-Coutts, the philanthropist; Lucy H. Hooper, the queen of correspondents, tells of the "Water Supply of Paris"; "A Ship-Portage from Sea to Sea" is an able discussion of the merits of the proposed ship-railway at Tehuantepec. F. C. Valentine tells us of "Central American Women," and Prof. Eaton discusses the important subject of "Fresh and Foul Air."

Honey and Beeswax Market.

Office of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL,
 Monday, 10 a. m., Aug. 2, 1886.

The following are the latest quotations for honey and beeswax received up to this hour:

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—It is coming on the market very freely this week, and there are advices of other lots at this time in transit. We are practically without any demand, so prices are nominal. Offers of 12½c. would be accepted; yet 14c. is being asked.
BEESWAX.—Scarce at 25c.

R. A. BURNETT, 161 South Water St.

NEW YORK.

HONEY.—The present quotations are as follows: Fancy white comb in 1-lb. sections, 108½c.; fancy white comb in 2-lb. sections, 88½c.; buckwheat in 1 and 2-lb. sections, 58½c.; extracted white clover, 6c; extracted, California, 4½c.; extracted, Southern, per gallon, 45 to 55c.

BEESWAX.—23 to 25c.
 MCCALL & HILDEBRATH BROS., 34 Hudson St.

BOSTON.

HONEY.—One-lb. sections, white clover, 130½c.; 2-pound sections, 110½c. Extracted, 98c.
BEESWAX.—25 cts. per lb.
 BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.

DETROIT.

HONEY.—New honey is coming in quite freely, and is bringing from 11 to 13c.
BEESWAX.—Firm, at 25 cts. per pound.
 M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

CINCINNATI.

HONEY.—The demand for extracted honey has been very light of late, but it seems to be improving gradually for manufacturing purposes. There is considerable honey in the hands of commission merchants, and prices are very low—3¼ to 7 cts. per pound is the range of prices. Prices of comb honey are nominal.
BEESWAX.—Arrivals are good and the demand fair. We pay 18½c. for fair to choice yellow.
 C. F. MUTH & SON, Freeman & Central Ave.

CLEVELAND.

HONEY.—Within the last two weeks honey has not sold so readily, owing to the near approach of the new crop and the uncertainty of the new prices. Best white, 1-lb., old honey moves slowly at 14 cts.; no demand for 2-lbs. Extracted, 66½c.
BEESWAX.—22 to 25c.
 A. C. KENDEL, 115 Ontario Street.

KANSAS CITY.

HONEY.—The receipts of new honey are good and very fine. The demand is good and stocks in store are light of one-pound sections. We quote: 1-lb. sections of white clover, 140½c.; 1-lb., dark, 110½c.; 2-lb., white clover, 110½c.; 2-lb., dark, 88½c.; California white 2-lbs., 100½c.; dark, 88½c. Extracted white clover, 54½c.; dark, 3¼c.; California white, 44½c.; dark, 3¼c.
BEESWAX.—20 to 22c.
 CLEMENS, CLOON & Co., cor. 4th & Walnut.

MILWAUKEE.

HONEY.—The market is fairly supplied with honey, trade is dull, prices depressed, and the outlook is for a large production. Already some is being peddled about the city by the producers themselves, demoralizing the prices, which should not be done. We quote: Choice white in 1-pound sections, 140½c.; 2-lb., 130½c. Dark honey not wanted. Extracted, white, in barrels and kegs, 58 7c.; in tin cans, 68½c.; dark in barrels or kegs, 48½c.
BEESWAX.—25c.
 A. V. BISHOP, 142 W. Water St.

SAN FRANCISCO.

HONEY.—The prices of honey on this coast are now so low that producers can hardly make any profit, and a good many apiarists will quit the business if prices do not improve soon. The crop is large, and the quality of very choice quality. We quote 3¼ to 4¼c. in a jobbing way, and perhaps a trifle more; but if holders wish to force sales, lower prices must be taken. Comb honey sells slowly at 8 to 9c., but just now it is not the season for comb honey, and prices may improve.
BEESWAX.—Generally held at 22 to 25c. for average. SCHACHT & LEMCKE, 122-124 Davis St.

HONEY.—New honey is coming forward freely. The quality is exceptionally fine and the crop will be large. White to extra white comb, 90½c. Extracted, 44½c. for white; 3¼c. for amber.
BEESWAX.—22½c.
 O. B. SMITH & Co., 423 Front Street.

Our Catalogue of Bee-Keepers' Supplies will be sent to any one desiring to get a copy. Send name and address, plainly written, on a Postal Card for it.

Advertisements.

Will sell 400 full Colonies of Bees in lots to suit buyer; or will sell Apiaries already stocked up. **Now is your time.** Address, **H. H. BOARDMAN**, 28Atf EA. TOWNSEND, Huron Co., O.

ROOT'S Simplicity and CHAFF HIVES, Dadant's Celebrated Comb Foundation, Frames, Sections, Smokers, and a full line of Supplies constantly on hand. Address, **E. R. NEWCOMB**, PLEASANT VALLEY, Dutchess Co., N. Y. 27Atf

FINE Tested Italian Queens of this year's breeding, for \$1 each; Untested Queens only 65 cts. each, by return mail. Hives and Sections at rock-bottom prices. **B. J. MILLER & CO.**, Nappanee, Ind. 29Atf

STRONG Nuclet—with Tested Italian Queens and full-sized frames. 2 3-frame Nuclet, \$5.00; 10 3-frame Nuclet, \$23; 2 4-frame, \$6; 10 4-frame, \$25.00. Also Full Colonies cheap. Address, 31Dt2 REV. J. E. KEARNS, Morning Sun, Iowa.

I CAN use a few thousand pounds of Extracted Honey of good quality, if cheap. Address, **H. R. BOARDMAN**, 28Atf EA. TOWNSEND, Huron co., O.

BEE Hives and Sections—Send to **HERR & BEULE**, manufacturers, Beaver Dam, Wis., for price lists. Good materials. Low prices. 10A26t

TESTED Queens. (Imported Mother) \$1.25 each; \$12 per doz.—O. N. Baldwin, Clarksville, Mo. 4Aty

Dadant's Foundation Factory, wholesale and retail. See Advertisement in another column.

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WE, the original inventors of the one-piece Sections and Berry-Baskets in any quantity. Please write for terms. **M. & H. F. COFFIN**, 28Atf MILTON, Trimble Co., KY.

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The BRITISH BEE JOURNAL is published every week, at Ten Shillings and 10d. per annum, and contains the best practical information for the time being, showing what to do, and when and how to do it. It is edited by T. W. Cowan, Esq.

The British Bee Journal and the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, one year, for \$2.75.

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Established in 1864. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. WE have the largest steam-power shops in the West, exclusively used to make EVERYTHING needed in the Apiary, of practical construction and at the LOWEST PRICES. Italian Bees, Queens, 12 styles of Hives, Sections, Honey-Extractors, Bee-Smokers, Feeders, Comb Foundation, and everything used by bee-keepers always on hand. Illustrated Catalogue FREE to all. Address, 31-35-39 E. Kretschmer, Ceburg, Iowa.

QUEENS FOR SALE or EXCHANGE.

"Jerseyville, Ill., July 23, 1886.—Mr. J. T. Wilson: Dear Sir—The 55 Italian Queens that I bought of you last year were all purely mated except one. The most of them were Choice Queens, and just as good as higher priced ones, for general purposes.—E. Armstrong."

One Queen, 75 cts.; 6 for \$4.00. Will work as well on red clover as anybody's Queens. I will exchange for Honey, Alsike Clover Seed, or for Poland China Hogs. Address, 31Atf J. T. WILSON, Nicholasville, Ky.

Vandervort Comb Fdn. Mills,

Send for Samples & Reduced Price-List. Atf J. VANDERVORT, Laceyville, Pa.

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We will with pleasure send a sample copy of the Semi-Monthly *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, with a descriptive price-list of the latest improvements in Hives, Honey Extractors, Comb Foundation, Section Honey Boxes, all books and journals, and everything pertaining to Bee Culture. Nothing Patented. Simply send your address written plainly, to

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Send for my Illustrated Catalogue. 5Ct PAUL L. VIALLO, Bayou Goula, La.

ITALIAN QUEENS, by Return Mail, Tested, 1.00. Untested, 75 cents. 26Atf GEO. STUCKMAN, Nappanee, Ind.

Golden Italians.

WARRANTED Queens 75 cts. each; per dozen, \$8.00. All Queens sent out prior to Aug. 10 will be reared from cells built by natural swarming. Queens shipped next day after receiving order, if so desired. Should any prove to have mated, they will be replaced with a nice Tested Queen of 1886 rearing. Address,

JAMES WOOD, North Prescott, Mass. 20A20t

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Select Tested Italian Queens!

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Also, send for Free Circular of Italian Bees and Queens, bred for Honey and for Sale. The "Adjustable" Honey-Case, and other Standard Supplies for the Apiary.

Address, **OLIVER FOSTER**, 21Ct MT. VERNON, Linn Co., IOWA.

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Read what J. I. EARENT, of CHARLTON, N. Y., says—"We cut with one of your Combined Machines, last winter, 50 chaff hives with 7-in. cap, 100 honey-racks, 500 broad frames, 2,000 honey-boxes and a great deal of other work. This winter we have double the amount of bee-hives, etc., to make and we expect to do it with this Saw. It will do all you say it will." Catalogue and Price-List

Free. Address, W. F. & JOHN BARNES, 45Ct No. 484 Ruby St., Rockford, Ill.

HUMPHREYS' HOMEOPATHIC SPECIFIC No. 28

In use 30 years. The only successful remedy for Nervous Debility, Vital Weakness, and Prostration, from over-work or other causes. \$1 per vial, or 5 vials and large vial powder, for \$5. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS, or sent postpaid on receipt of price.—Humphreys' Medicine Co., 109 Fulton St., N. Y.

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A. J. COOK, Author and Publisher, 1A1y Agricultural College, Mich.

